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Israel is persisting in its plans to bring the southerners and the Lebanese authority to their knees. The results of Israel's actions on the ground will determine the outcome of the negotiations. Therefore, it is necessary to continue the policy of resistance until final victory and total withdrawal, whether through negotiations or without them.

Shaykh Sha'ban for Sending Weapons to South
NC160750 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic
0530 GMT 16 Nov 84

[Text] Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban, leader of the Islamic Unification Movement, returned to Tripoli yesterday following 2 days of talks in Beirut and Damascus. Commenting on his visit to Beirut, Shaykh Sha'ban said: The visit has given us hope for the unity of the Islamic ranks and dispelled the fears disseminated by hate-mongers.

He added: We are thinking of making an extensive Islamic tour that will include Iran and some of the Islamic Arab capitals.

Shaykh Sha'ban urged those in Tripoli who have not, to surrender their weapons so that the Security Committee can resume its work. He called for the dispatch of the weapons to the south, where words are being translated into deeds.

Shaykh Sha'ban pointed out that Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam blessed his visit to Beirut and was optimistic about its fraternal results.

DAILY STAR on Sha'ban's Islamic Movement
NC151230 Beirut THE DAILY STAR in English
14 Nov 84 p 2

[By Ma'an Barazi]

[Text] Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban's visit to Beirut, which ended Tuesday morning when he headed for Damascus, was designed to ease Sunni-Shi'ite tensions in the Western sector of the capital, he said late Monday night. Sha'ban, who heads the Tripoli-based Sunni fundamentalist Islamic Unification Movement, arrived in Beirut last week on his first official visit to the capital. His public appearances with Shaykh Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah have given rise to much speculation that Sha'ban intended to form an Islamic front with the Beirut-based fundamentalist groups.

Monday night he delivered a fiery lecture at the American University of Beirut (AUB) promising to take the Islamic revolution to U.S. soil. Surrounded by dozens of armed bodyguards, he also delivered a fierce attack on AUB itself, saying it was intended to "graduate enemies of our Islamic nation."

The speech, along with his public appearances with Fadlallah and Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din, vice president of the Supreme Shi'ite Council, appeared to herald the arrival on the Beirut political scene of a leader who has hitherto largely confined his activities to Tripoli. Asked about the purpose of his visit to Beirut, however, he stressed he came purely in the interests of Islamic unity. "There were rumors that there might be diver-

gences between Moslems," he said. "But during my visit I was convinced the parties had no intention of starting a conflict that might endanger the ummah (Moslem society)."

Speaking late Monday night after a series of meetings with Amal leader Nabih Birri, education Minister Salim al-Huss, and Progressive Socialist Party and Al-Murabitun officials, he said: "My talks in West Beirut have erased my fears that there might be a breakdown in the Islamic position in West Beirut."

Concerning rumors of the possible formation of an Islamic front with Hezbollah, Sha'ban said he had no such plans. But he admitted his visit to Beirut was aimed at forming what he called "a united Islamic leadership."

According to Sha'ban, this united Islamic leadership will succeed in bringing an Islamic republic to Lebanon. "I can see no other solution to the Lebanese crisis than the takeover of Lebanese politics, administration and bureaucracy by Moslems," he declared. "If the Moslems rule, they will be fair, but if the others rule, they will strangle other sects," he added.

He said that it would be easier to create an Islamic republic in Lebanon than in any other state, because the Lebanese have experienced so many regimes and philosophies that they are convinced an Islamic republic is the only remedy to the Lebanese crisis. He was very pessimistic about the future of the "national unity" government, saying it would never reach a solution. Even the ministers serving in the Cabinet have no faith in its chances, he said.

Asked about the relation Iran would have with an Islamic state in Lebanon, Sha'ban merely pointed out that this Tawhid Movement [Islamic Unification Movement] existed before the Iranian revolution. "I hope however, the Iranian revolution will bring the rule of God to all nations, as its leaders promised," he added.

Sha'ban is known to have firm links with Iran. He was escorted to Beirut last week by Iranian officials and those Iranian officials went with him to Damascus Tuesday. He is also known to have traditionally poor relations with Syria. A supporter of Yasir 'Arafat and his PLO loyalists during the inter-Palestinian fighting in Tripoli, his acceptance of the Syrian-brokered security plan in Tripoli came only after Iranian mediation. "Iran believes Tripoli is an Islamic city and should have protection," he said. "The Iranian good offices with Syria have helped ease pressures between Tawhid and the Syrian state," he added.

But Sha'ban admitted relations with Syria were not good. He appeared concerned over the possibility of future military interference on the part of Syria in Lebanese affairs and said that while in Damascus he would try to seek assurances from Damascus that intervention would not extend beyond certain "red lines," which he did not specify.

"I hope I can deal with Syrian interference in Lebanon by convincing Syrian officials that the Syrian role should be peaceful and not military," he said. "The Syrian role in Beirut should not increase and should be confined to peace agreements in Tripoli, he said."

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He added that his visit to Damascus was also intended to ease tensions between rival Moslem groups: "It will stop clashes between the sons of the same ummah," he declared. "Imperialists have profited from the fight and have diverted us from the battle with Israel," he added.

Sha'ban firmly dismissed suggestions that he was on good terms with Yasir 'Arafat. It had been suggested that Sha'ban might use the flagging security plan in Tripoli and his newly-strengthened ties with extremist groups in Beirut to exert pressure on Damascus to facilitate the convening of the Palestine National Council. "I have relations only with the Palestinian people, not with the PLO," he declared. "PLO policies have caused misery to the Palestinians."

"I have advised Abu 'Ammar (Yasir 'Arafat) to change his political line many times, but he was afraid of losing his popularity, and it seems he was more concerned about his popularity than the interests of the Palestinians."

Asked if this represented a volte-face with regard to erstwhile ally, Sha'ban said no. "The fighting we were involved in, in Tripoli, was not for 'Arafat but ourselves — we were defending ourselves and our city."

"The Palestinian crisis cannot be solved without a unified Islamic position and an army that adopts the Jihad (Holy War)," he said. "An Islamic society must be prepared to take over incentives in the whole region and I think that will happen in the near future."

French Presidential Adviser Ends Visit to Beirut
NC151309 Beirut Domestic Service In Arabic 1130 GMT
 15 Nov 84

[Text] Francois de Grossouvre, the political adviser of French President Francois Mitterrand, left Beirut at noon today on board a special plane for Athens. He went to the plane directly without making any statement. He was seen off at the airport by the French ambassador to Lebanon and a number of senior embassy officials. It is not known whether De Grossouvre will stopover in Athens for a visit.

Sham'un, U.S. Ambassador Discuss Developments
NC151812 Beirut Domestic Service In Arabic 1630 GMT
 15 Nov 84

[Text] Minister Camille Sham'un received U.S. Ambassador to Lebanon Reginald Bartholomew at his residence in Al-Ashrafyah at noon today. Sham'un and the ambassador met for 1 hour and discussed the current developments in Lebanon, particularly the Lebanese-Israeli military talks. After the meeting, Sham'un said: "We discussed Lebanese questions and the negotiations being held in Al-Naqurah between the Lebanese and the Israeli delegations as well as the U.S. Administration's role for the success of these negotiations."

'UKAZ: Iddih On Reagan's Reelection, Israeli Aims
PM141714 Jeddah 'UKAZ in Arabic 11 Nov 84 p 12

["Text" of interview with Lebanese National Bloc Leader Raymond Iddih by Muhammad Qawas — date, place not given]

[Text] We first asked his opinion as to Reagan's future policy toward Lebanon, that is, after his reelection.

He replied: Judging by the Reagan administration's previous attitude toward Lebanon, I believe that the United States in fact destroyed Lebanon when it allowed Israel to invade it in 1982. Israel is still in Lebanon in violation of all international laws. Whenever Lebanon complains to the United Nations and asks it to condemn Israel's inhuman practices in Lebanon, the United States uses its veto to block any resolution to that effect. All I can say is that the U.S., or rather Reagan's previous policy, was never in Lebanon's favor. God willing, now that he has been reelected without owing his victory to the Jews, we hope that he will return to his senses and conscience, apply international law, respect Lebanon's sovereignty, independence, and unity, and put pressure on Israel to withdraw from the south.

On the Lebanese-Israeli military negotiations, Iddih said: I was the first to oppose the 17 May agreement and since then I have not stopped calling for the implementation of the armistice agreement and for military negotiations. Israel has created a problem by claiming that the armistice agreement was abrogated after the 1967 war. Lebanon, my brother, has done nothing since 1949. It participated in neither the 1967 war nor in the 1973 war. Israel entered Lebanon on the pretext of protecting Galilee's security, but that was never its real aim. Israel's aim is to seize our water. I have been saying this since I became a member of Parliament in 1953. I have been telling the Lebanese people and the world that Israel covets the water of the south, of the Al-Litani, Al-Hasbani, and Al-Wazzani Rivers. The purpose of Israel's present behavior and its procrastination over withdrawal from Lebanon, is that a day should come when it would agree to withdraw from all Lebanese territory in return for a share in Lebanon's water. Lebanon cannot give up its water because it needs it for drinking and irrigation. I say that Israel's target is our water, not the security of Galilee as it claims, because the Lebanese Army and people never committed aggression against Israel or Galilee. If the Palestinians proceeded from the south to attack Israel, there are no Palestinians in the south now. If Lebanon or Syria want to hit Galilee, there are missiles with a range of 50km which cannot be stopped by the Israeli occupation army in the south. I believe that Israel will not withdraw completely from southern Lebanon, western al-Biq'a, and Rashayya.

Asked what he thought of the idea of closing the illegal ports — which has recently been implemented — Iddih said: I have been in favor of that idea for quite some time. I urge the closure of these ports as a move to protect the Lebanese treasury. The proof of what I am saying is the fact that the Lebanese Forces made an annual revenue of 3 billion Lebanese pounds from the fifth dock, not to mention the protection money unjustly levied by other militias on restaurants, shops, and night clubs. All I can say is God help the people.

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